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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY CJ DATE 8/7/81
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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 SS-20 NSC-10 PM-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 P-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 E-15 COM-08 INT-06
RSR-01 /108 W

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FM AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6154
INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

per algeria-Libya

C O N F I D E N T I A L TRIPOLI 0783

SUBJ: LIBYAN-ALGERIAN PETROLEUM RELATIONS

REF: ALGIERS 546

1. PRESS STATEMENTS AND COMMUNIQUES RELATING TO VISIT OF LNOC DELEGATION, HEADED BY MINPET MABRUUK, AND STATE VISIT OF RCC PRESIDENT QADHAAFI INDICATE VISITS HAVE GIVEN SUBSTANCE TO PETROLEUM AGREEMENTS NEGOTIATED DURING DECEMBER VISIT TO TRIPOLI OF ALGERIAN DELEGATION LED BY FONMIN BOUTEFLIKA. (TRIPOLI A-274).

2. THEMES COMMON TO ALL STATEMENTS ARE: A) TECHNICAL COOPERATION, B) COORDINATION OF OIL POLICY, C) TRAINING (LIBYAN NEWS AGENCY REPORTS 50 LIBYANS WILL BE ACCEPTED IN ALGERIA FOR TRAINING IN REFINING AND OTHER OIL TECHNOLOGY), D) AGREEMENT TO ESTABLISH LIBYAN-ALGERIAN JOINT VENTURE COMPANY FOR OIL EXPLORATION (LNA ADDS LNOC-SONATRACH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE NAMED TO FRANE COMPANY CHARTER, RECOMMEND ACREAGE FOR JOINT VENTURE AND PREPARE WORK PROGRAM AND BUDGET WITHIN ONE MONTH), AND E) ADOPTION COMMON POSITION TOWARD FOREIGN OIL COMPANIES.

3. COMMENT: LIBYAN FASCINATION WITH ALGERIA'S NATIONALIST EXPERIMENT IN OIL DEVELOPMENT SEEMS ABOUT TO BEAR SOME FRUIT - AT LEAST IN TRAINING AND INNOVATIVE NATIONAL COMPANY JOINT VENTURE. STATEMENT IN PETROLEUM MINISTERS' JOINT COMMUNIQUE THAT TWO COUNTRIES ARE QUOTE TO ESTABLISH UNITED FRONT...IN FACE OF FOREIGN MONOPLY COMPANIES UNQUOTE HAS OMINOUS RING IN LIGHT OF LARG'S CURRENT NE-

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GOTIATIONS WITH ITS CONCESSIONAIRES. MARKET COMPETITION BETWEEN LIBYAN AND ALGERIAN HYDROCARBONS MAY BE ABSCURED TEMPORARILY BY REVOLUTIONARY FERVOR AND COMMON NATIONALIST SPIRIT TO DESCOMFITURE OF FOREIGN OPERATORS IN LIBYA. GP-4.
PALMER

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